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ABSTRACT

This document profiles a total of 78 resources to assist individuals responsible for development and implementation of career academies. The resources are organized into sections that are each devoted to one of the following types of information resources: information indexes; search engines; World Wide Web portals for education; lesson plan sources; sources for online projects; communications media; general curriculum resources; and career and subject resources. Each section begins with a brief definition of the type of information resource included in the section and its specific usefulness in the process of searching for information on career academies. The following information is provided for each resource listed: (1) the Web site's name and address; (2) a brief description that includes audiences who will find the site particularly useful, unique features offered by the site, and information about membership fees or requirements; and (3) comments about the site's usefulness and a rating of the site's overall quality. The following are among the types of resources profiled: teacher-prepared, project-based instructional units and online training for teachers; searchable databases; media sources for current events; a network linking schools in different countries for projects; materials for digital classrooms; clearinghouses; resources on assessment and standards; and information on subjects outside the usual curriculum. (MN)

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Teaching and Learning Resources

Curriculum guide for Career Academies

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Teaching and Learning Resources

Curriculum Guide For Career Academies

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CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT NETWORK

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On-Line Version

This guide is available on-line at: http://casn.berkeley.edu The on-line version provides live links to all listed web sites.

Teaching and Learning Resources
Curriculum Guide for Career Academies

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Information Indexes

An *information index* is a set of topic menus and submenus where selections are narrowed to find what you need. Yahoo is the best known of these sites, but there are others that are great places to start for project and curriculum ideas.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Yahoo www.yahoo.com	Use it for research on more popular or commercial topics. Other sites are more academic.	The biggest and best known, so it can't be ignored.
About.com www.about.com	Has leads to all high school subjects. Links to LessonPlans.com (see under Lesson Plan Resources).	Especially good section on **writing** and **poetry.**
Britannica www.britannica.com	Subjects to browse are infinite. Offers premium membership, but not necessary to join.	An oldie but a goodie. A nice touch: a list of recent *New York Times* articles useful in the classroom.
Galaxy www.einet.net/galaxy.html	Opens with a list of topics applicable to all careers, then links to a variety of subcategories. For example, **agriculture** can take you to fish farming in Nova Scotia.	This large site takes a while to load.
The WWW Virtual Library www.vlib.org	**Law, government, and protective services** students will find a library of info on **forensics**.	Terrific compendium of well-organized, detailed information.

Search Engines

Search engines are the way to start if you have a phrase or special topic to research. Everyone has their favorites, but they do differ. Except for Google and Northern Light, the sites listed here use multiple search engines, meaning they search other sites for you.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Google www.google.com	Google claims to access over 1,387,500 sites.	Rated very high for content by most reviewers.
Northern Light www.northernlight.com	Designed to allow you to easily research current events topics.	Not as commercial as most search sites. Check 'Today's Headlines' for information on a hot topic.
Planet Search www.planetsearch.com	Searches 12 sites at once.	A bit oriented to pop culture rather than the classroom.
WebCrawler www.webcrawler.com	Contains a comprehensive section on **Careers.**	Good list of other sites on specific topics.
MetaCrawler www.go2net.com/search.html	Check out the section on **education.** **Arts** teachers will also like the resources on **design** and the **arts**.	Good starting point for almost any topic.

Web Portals for Education

Web portals integrate information indexes and search engines into one site that offers resources, tools, and services for a particular field. Those listed here are geared toward education. Several are fee-based and contract with schools or individuals.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
The LearningStation www.learningstation.com	A technology-oriented subscription-based service to schools.	Attempts to integrate technology in a meaningful way with curriculum.
MediaSeek Technologies, Inc. www.explorasource.com	Comprehensive resources, including all forms of media, for all high school subjects.	Very oriented toward standards. A great site.
NCS NovaNet www.novanet.com	Fee-based service. A virtual school on the web, with curriculum in every subject, including **careers** and **school-to-work**.	Very slick site with free demo cd's.
NetSchools Corporation www.netschools.net	Net-based services, including hardware and software, for schools.	Plato Learning acquired NetSchools Corp. recently. Very organized net learning.

Lesson Plan Sources

These sites are sources for well- organized lesson plans, covering all subjects and grade levels. Browse these sites once a year before school starts, or use in a pinch. All are **five star** sites. Includes sites that will help on such topics as project-based learning, assessment, and Advanced Placement courses.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Analyze and Apply www.analyze-apply.com	Offers teacher-prepared, project based instructional units and on-line training for teachers in **math, science, language arts,** and **social studies**. One of the few sites to include **SCANS** skills in the content instruction. Use this site if you're searching for curriculum that integrates subjects, careers, and skills. Other lessons for occupations such as: ecologists, farmers, dieticians, physicians assistant, health researcher, expert witness and aerospace engineer. • **Health** • **Ecology** • **Technology** • **Engineering** • **Communication** • **Arts** • **Math** • **Science** • **Social Studies** • **Language Arts**	Strong offerings of integrated classroom units: an 11th grade student might prepare a memo and a 10-minute presentation to a local hospital board on the history of birth control advocates after WWI. Also, good source if you're looking for professional development resources.
The AskERIC Virtual Library ericir.syr.edu	**ERIC** is the Educational Resources Information Center, a *comprehensive* federally funded national information system. Through its 16 subject-specific clearinghouses, associated adjunct clearinghouses, and support components, it provides a variety of services and products on a broad range of education-related issues. Also, do your students need to know how to write a resume and complete a job application? Use *AskERIC*.	Best bets for lesson plans for high school teachers: • **Health** (family life); • **Arts** (architecture); • **Language Arts** (journalism and literature); • **Mathematics** (algebra; geometry; calculus); • **Social Studies** (U.S. history, government, political systems, psychology & current events)

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
AT&T Learning Network www.att.com/learningnetwork	Searchable site for lesson plans in all subjects. Look for the teacher section. Lesson plans, plus much more, are available.	Not as tech oriented as you might think. Can also be accessed at www.att.teach.org. For a special treat, click on Carnegie Hall listening adventures.
Big Chalk www.bigchalk.com	Searchable database for lesson plans, school reform, and student activities.	Another *big* site. Easy to use. Every resource imaginable for a teacher.
Columbia Education Center Lesson Plans www.col-ed.org/index	Devoted entirely to lesson plans. Maintained by a private educational service in Oregon. About 20-40 lessons in all subject areas.	Very teacher-oriented, no-nonsense site. You can go directly to high school lesson plans--all of which are classroom-tested!
LessonPlans.com www.LessonPlansPage.com	A prime example of what you will find on this site: A complete unit on the **Renaissance** for **world history**, including daily lesson plans.	Easy to browse site for lesson plans. Topics for high-schoolers are well-described, and a detailed overview of each lesson or unit leads you in the right direction.
New York Times www.nytimes.com/learning	Media source for current events, the *New York Times* is also a source for lesson plans and curriculum. Lesson plan units use recent articles as springboards for examining important curricular topics. Lessons are designed to be shared with teachers in other content areas and to support interdisciplinary units. Recent example of a daily lesson plan: Carnival of Carnivores. Best Units by subject are: • **Global History** • **Science** • **Media Studies** • **Social Studies**	The *New York Times* archives contain hundreds of free lesson plans for grades 6-12. Fun features on the site: Word of the Day; and Who's Who & What's What in the news.

Sources for Online Projects

If you're searching for a project with a unique flavor to engage students and help them develop research and telecommunications skills, try these sites. They're inspiring. Included are sites on libraries and museums, which put you and your students in touch with experts and help you explore special topics.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
The Franklin Institute Science Museum www.fi.edu	Some highlights: • **Biology** (the human heart and circulation) • **Aeronautics** (design an aircraft) • **U.S. History** (the life of Benjamin Franklin)	Very friendly site for an educator.
International Education and Resource Network www.iearn.org	This network links up schools in different countries (or states) for projects. All projects end with an exhibition or product—which fits with an academy perspective. Examples of projects include clean water for Nicaragua, Balkans peace making, and a long list of **environmental science** projects.	If you want your students to participate in a global affairs project, this is the site to search. **Five star site.**
MetaLab Collections www.metalab.unc.edu	Very strong site for: • **Geography** • **Biology** • **History** • **Literature** • **Technology** • **Applied Sciences** For example, it has many documents related to **military history**.	The term "meta" is accurate here. A huge collection of information on many topics, including the **American West**. A nice spin: since this is a site sponsored by the University of North Carolina, it has many good materials on **Southern history**. Also links to a guide to all museums on the web at www.metalab.unc.edu/wm/net. **Five star site.**
The NASA Quest Project www.quest.arc.nasa.gov	Searchable lesson plans for **space** and **aeronautics**. Good section on careers in aeronautics, plus K-12 teacher's guides. Current units of interest include Women of NASA and Astroadventures: Build a Habitable Planet.	If you want more general information on NASA, try links such as www.seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov and www.spacelink.nasa.gov

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
National Air and Space Museum www.nasm.edu	Offers a long list of publications for **aeronautics**.	If you like **airplanes** or **spacecraft**, you'll like this site.
National Archives and Records Administration www.nara.gov	Look for the section on the Digital Classroom, which offers lesson plans and ideas on how to use primary materials in **history** research.	A surprisingly interesting site. If you want a document or record, start here.
SitesAlive! www.sitesalive.com	A subscription service to web-based classrooms. Subscriptions are reasonable ($199 for 30 students per semester). Includes lesson plans, assignments, and web interaction with sites. This is the group that sponsors the Classroom at Sea.	Especially good on **environmental science**, such as classes in rainforest and fisheries restoration in Central America.
Smithsonian Institution www.si.edu	A site as large as the Smithsonian itself. Links you to all other archives and museums and offices of education throughout the government.	Browse this one over the summer, when you have more leisure time.
ThinkQuest www.thinkquest.org	This site has topics on most everything of concern to students. Some notable ones: • **entrepreneurship** • **study skills** • **values**.	ThinkQuest is mainly known for its collection of educational web sites created by its student and teacher community.
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum www.ushmm.org	A teacher-friendly site that will give you ideas, lesson plans, and resources.	Indispensable as a resource for teaching about the **Holocaust**.
Web Quest Http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest	Inquiry and web-based based project resources. Includes about 500 projects for students in grades 9-12. In addition to traditional subject matter, the projects usually include work on **life skills** and **professional skills**.	These are collaborative, teacher written projects that are proven products. The projects are displayed using a common format—task, resources, problem, evaluation—that makes them extremely accessible.

Communications Media

The web offers access to interactive multimedia resources of all kinds. Many are familiar, such as www.cnn.com or abcnews.go.com. The sites listed here are designed more specifically for teachers and students.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
History Channel www.historychannel.com	Click on classroom resources for topics and teacher's guides for **history**. Of special note are the Oral History Interview Guidelines, which are downloadable as a handout.	Well-designed site with many options for teachers, including live webcasts.
Media Awareness Network www.media-awareness.ca	Offers a clearinghouse of information, teaching units on **media** and **communications**, student handouts, and media education tips.	The best site for **media** and **communications**. Comes from Canada, with a refreshing perspective on the media. **Five star site.** Best bet: online modules to teach students how to surf the web.
Time for Kids www.pathfinder.com/TFK	Clickable headlines lead you to just the right information. Shows you how to structure a lesson around the news.	User friendly, current site that allows you to integrate current events into the classroom. Check this site out when a breaking story impacts your subject.
U.S. News Classroom Program www.usnews.com/classroom	Similar to the *Time* site, but more focused on: • **Politics** • **Government** • **International Affairs**	Look at teaching units on **federal budget** or **foreign policy**.
USA Today Education www.usatoday.com/educate/home.htm	Also similar to *Time*, but less serious. A four-page lesson plan around the news is available online at 9:00 p.m. the night before class.	Daily information of national interest. Can use the teaching aids for all levels of students.

General Curriculum Resources

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Awesome Library www.awesomelibrary.org	Catalogues the top 5% of all education resources, from more than 20,000 sources.	Good set of rubrics and materials on **public speaking** for **media** and **communications**.
Blue Web'n www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/bluewebn/	A Pacific Bell site that catalogues 1200+ blue ribbon learning sites on the web by subject, grade level, and format. Content table connects you directly to your area of interest.	Easy to navigate. The strength of this site is that it leads you, by topic, to 75 other *hot* web sites. For example, for **health** teachers: • Personal Trainers and Wellness • Promoting Better Health through Fitness • The Real Scoop on Tobacco
Buck Institute for Education www.bie.org	A site focused on project-based learning and problem-based social studies with links to many project-based resources. Good source of projects for **economics.**	More of a site for teacher professional development than for lesson plans.
Center for Performance Assessment www.makingstandardswork.com	A site devoted entirely to **assessment** and **standards**.	Very useful sections on Best Teaching Practices, Assessment Resources, and Performance Assessments created by teachers.
Cisco's The Virtual Schoolhouse www.metalab.unc.edu/cisco/schoolhouse	A comprehensive—but not overwhelming—site geared toward higher-level academic work.	Great links to libraries and databases. Check out the online reference materials.
Curricular Resources and Networking Projects www.ed.gov/EdRes?EdCurric.html	Web site of the U.S. Department of Education. Particularly good access to state-by-state resources.	More useful as a general resource than a curriculum resource. Links to all topics in education. Good site for research reports.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Curriculum Using Technology Institute www.esc20.net/cut	Unusual step-by-step format for exploring the use of technology throughout all subjects and for creating your own individual lesson plan.	Part of the Region 20 Education Service Center in Texas.
Exploring Multiple Intelligences www.multi-intell.com	Everything you want to know on this topic: theory, practice, and lesson ideas.	New Dimensions of Learning web site. Promotes the theories of Howard Gardner, Harvard.
Federal Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE) www.ed.gov/free	A federal government web site that makes teaching and learning resources from across the federal government available in one place. This site lists all the education projects supported by more than 30 government agencies.	FREE relies on a search tool that displays the full text of each resource. Comprehensive and informative. Good source for project research.
Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM) www.thegateway.org	The GEM consortium is spearheaded by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information and Technology. Currently includes more than 7,000 items from 320 members of the consortium. Use this site to start your searches.	Teachers can type a topic, grade level, and other information into a search screen that retrieves—from more than 140 web sites—lessons, instructional units, and other free educational materials on the specified topic. **Five stars.**
Glencoe Publishing www.glencoe.com	Use this site for **publications**. Has a Web Resources section that links to web sites with teaching ideas, lesson plans, and other professional development information. Partly sponsored by McGraw-Hill. Many subjects available. Examples: • **Family and Consumer Services** • **Drafting and Design Technology**	The site provides tips on: • career development • building portfolios • classroom management instruction and planning • reading in the content areas • using technology
JDL K-12 World www.k-12world.com	One of the better sites for subjects outside the usual curriculum. For example, some good resources on: • **Industrial Technology and Design** • **Business Education** • **Religion**.	This site offers a cyberlibrary for K-12 education.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Jobs for the Future www.jff.org	Look for publications on: • **school-to-career** • **internships** • **standards** • **9th grade curriculum** • **mentoring**	Site of a leading organization focused on school-to-career issues.
The Library in the Sky www.nwrel.org/sky	Tracks more than 1400 sites useful to educators.	Sponsored by the Northwest Regional Education Lab.
Lightspan Study Web www.studyweb.com	Huge list of resources on many topics. Great site for students as well as teachers. All sites are rated for visual content.	A **five star** resource. Loads very fast, easy to navigate, comprehensive resource for all subjects and careers.
National Geographic www.nationalgeographic.com	Searchable database by grade and topic. Many downloadable resources. Maps and adventures for students in: • **Geography** • **Biology** • **Health Sciences**	This site is what you would expect from National Geographic: very organized, professional, comprehensive.
Pitsco Innovative Education www.pitsco.com	Pitsco is a private effort to "revolutionize high school education." Many of the products are fee-based, but many other resources are available on this site.	Worth looking at if you stress team-based and project-based instruction in your classroom. Emphasis is on **technology**.
Rubistar www.rubistar4teachers.org	See rubrics in action. A required site for project-based teachers.	A selling point for this site: it helps you create your own rubrics.
The Virtual High School www.govhs.org	A collaborative of high schools that offer on-line courses that your school may not provide.	A non-profit endeavor, but charges an annual fee for participating schools.
What Kids Can Do www.whatkidscando.org	Reviews meaningful community projects carried out by students all over the country. Good for: • **Journalism** • **Arts** • **Internships** • **Service Learning**	If you're momentarily uninspired, here's the site to search. Theme—'Powerful Learning with Public Purpose'—describes this site.

Career And Subject Resources

These sites may overlap with general curriculum resources, but offer more specialized help for particular career fields and academic subjects.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Access Excellence www.accessexcellence.org/RC	Offers a Visual Library with three major sections. Resources section links you to array of subtopics. Emphasis on: • **Biosciences** • **Environment** • **Health** • **Math** • **Science**	Highlights include: • The Living Skeleton, a series of X-ray images of the human body. • Graphics Gallery, a series of labeled diagrams with explanations of important processes of biotechnology. • Microscopy with light and electron projects by and for students. You'll also find bioethics lessons and plant genome projects.
American Association for the Advancement of Science www.aaas.org	The "homepage" for science educators. Covers all sciences, including social sciences. Large publications section, with books and other media available. • **Agriculture** • **Environmental Science** • **Health and Bioscience** • **Education** • **Engineering** • **Information Technology** • **Transportation** • **Aviation**	Not easy to navigate—use the site map to find your way to education resources.
ArtsEdNet www.artsednet.getty.edu	The "homepage" for **arts** and **communication**. A large array of lesson plans available, plus all resources for arts instruction, organized by grade level. • **Media and Communications** • **Visual and Performing Arts**	Try this site if you want to bring more art into your curriculum.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Center for Education and Work (CEW) www.cew.wisc.edu/Mathnet	CEW at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in collaboration with the School Mathematics and Science Achievement Center (SMSAC), created Mathnet to develop integrated, authentic curriculum units of 2-6 weeks in length for grades 9-12 or two-year college-level mathematics. • **Architecture** • **Building Trades** • **Construction** • **Manufacturing** • **Industrial Technology** • **Business and Finance** • **Transportation** • **Engineering**	Current curriculum products that link math to occupations. Best for broad technical areas.
The Consortium for Mathematics and Its Applications (COMAP) www.comap.com	COMAP develops curriculum materials and teacher training programs that are multidisciplinary, academically rigorous, and fun, using mathematical tools to explore real-world problems. • **Math**	Products are in print, video, and multi-media formats. Provides links to resources in **mathematics** and **science** for educators and students. Grades 9-12.
Cornell Theory Center Math and Science Gateway www.tc.cornell.edu/services/edu/mathscigateway	Manageable list of student-friendly ideas for: • **Science** • **Math** • **Computers** • **Engineering** • **Health** • **Agriculture** • **Culinary Arts** • **Environmental Science**	Offers resources and links to other informative web sites.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Eisenhower National Clearinghouse for Math and Science Education www.enc.org/weblinks	Excellent source for lesson plans, links to thousands of sites for teachers and students offering real world data on math and science topics that can be used for student projects, and information on careers in all science and math categories. • **Math** • **Science** • **Engineering** • **Electronics** • **Bioscience** • **Health** • **Environmental Science** • **Agriculture**	Posts each month a list of best web sites—the Digital Dozen. **Five star site.**
Explore Math.com www.exploremath.com	A site for highly interactive, multimedia **math** lessons.	This site makes math fun.
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) www.faa.gov/education	Offers Aviation Education Curriculum Guides as part of a collaborative effort between the Massachusetts Corporation for Educational Telecommunications, FAA, NASA, and Bridgewater State College. • **Aviation** • **Transportation**	This is a good site if a student wants to do a **history of aviation** or learn about **careers in aviation**. The National Coalition for Aviation Education also offers here a guide to help educators identify and obtain aviation-oriented educational materials and information.
Foundation for Teaching Economics www.fte.org	Designed to "introduce individuals to an economic way of thinking," this site offers detailed lesson plans in **economics**, as well as content standards, links, and resources. • **Agriculture** • **Environmental Science** • **Business** • **Marketing** • **Finance** • **Consumer and Family Life**	If you're going to teach economics, visit this site. For example: "Transaction costs in a Soviet Household" offers an interesting look at consumer challenges.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
Geography Network www.geographynetwork.com	An information source for maps and data from weather satellites, census, elevations, and the like.	Bookmark this site as a resource for students working on a variety of projects.
History Matters www.historymatters.gmu.edu/	**U.S. history**, with topics that cut across all careers. Offers lesson plans, resources. • **Math** • **Science** • **Humanities** • **Economics** • **Geography**	A great "homepage" for **U.S. history** teachers.
Math Forum www.mathforum.com	The Math Forum is an online math education center that offers: • Secondary math units • Web-based discussion areas • Forum Internet Mathematics Library • Ask-an-expert service • **Math**	Good reference source for standard math subjects. Its problems of the week provide creative, non-routine challenges for students in grades three through twelve. Excellent list of Internet resources for specific math subjects.
Music Education Online www.childrensmusicworkshop.com	Links to resources for **music education**. • **Visual and Performing Arts**	Lesson plans available, teachers encouraged to submit their own ideas.
NASA Educator Resource Center Network (ERCN) http://education.nasa.gov/index.html	Helps educators access **science**, **mathematics**, and **technology** instructional products aligned with national standards and appropriate state frameworks. • **Engineering** • **Technology** • **Aeronautics** • **Transportation**	Excellent site for career activities in various locations throughout the U.S. Also, comprehensive listing of workshops for teachers.
National Center for History in the Schools www.sscnet.ucla.edu/nchs/	**U.S. history** and **world history**. Units available that correlate to history standards. Designed for teachers who need ideas and materials for next month. • **History**	Easy-to-locate units and lessons. Reproducible, downloadable materials. An excellent user-friendly site. **Five star site.**

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
National Council of Mathematics Illuminations www.illuminations.nctm.org	Based on the NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics, this site contains lesson plans developed by expert teachers, as well as mathematics education web resources and searchable interactive versions of updated NCTM standards. • **Math**	Another easy to use site that allows you to go straight to grade level and topic to find lessons. **Five star math site.**
Ohio Math Works www.ohiomathworks.org	Ohio Math Works is a PBS project that shows students in grades 7, 8, and 9 how industry professionals use **mathematics**. Videos take students behind the scenes in companies and give them an opportunity to do the math-related tasks that are done by professionals on the job. • **Hospitality and Tourism** • **Culinary Arts** • **Health** • **Media and Communications** • **Visual Arts** • **Science** • **Journalism** • **Mathematics**	On this award winning, engaging site for grades 7, 8, and 9, you'll find math units that relate to: • Theme parks • Snacks • Fashion • Weather • Newspapers **Five star site** for integrating math and careers.
PBS Teacher Source www.pbs.org/teachersource	A service of the Teacher Resource Service at PBS and participating public television stations nationwide. Provides a blend of technologies, including online communication and video. A large, general site with over 3,000 lesson plans in many subjects. • **Visual Arts Communications** • **Media Studies** • **Health**	Can also be used as a specialty site for **arts**, **literature**, and **health**, where it is very strong.

Site	Description	Comments/Rating
TERC www.terc.edu	Non-profit education research and development organization whose mission is to improve **mathematics**, **science**, and **technology** teaching and learning. It develops, evaluates, promotes, and supports implementation of exemplary, inquiry-based mathematics and science curricula. • **Engineering** • **Technology** • **Agriculture** • **Biosciences** • **Health**	A current, innovative site with a list of instructional programs and materials created by TERC. Many links to interesting projects/resources for students.
Worldwide Arts Resources www.wwar.com	Guide to arts curricula and resources used in arts high schools and programs across the country. • **Arts**	Many of these programs and resources maintain links to other arts resources on the web.

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